

REMARKS

The applicant has amended the claims to recite a method for reshaping a cornea that includes placing an electrode in contact with a cornea and sending a current through the electrode and into the cornea to heat and denature the cornea tissue. Reexamination and reconsideration of the above entitled application is requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 33-37 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph because the term "a predetermined time interval" is vague. The applicant has removed this objectionable language. The applicant therefore submits that the claims now comply with the second paragraph of § 112.

The Examiner rejected claims 33-35 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sauer. The Examiner indicated that claims 36 and 37 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection of § 112.

The applicant has amended claim 33 to recite a method for reshaping a cornea by placing an electrode in contact with a cornea and sending a current through the electrode and into the cornea to heat and denature the cornea tissue. Sauer does not disclose placing an electrode in contact with the cornea tissue to reshape the cornea. Additionally, Sauer does not disclose providing current to a cornea tissue by placing an electrode in direct contact with the tissue. Sauer discloses an instrument for heating tissue with a laser. The applicant submits that none of the prior art discloses a method for reshaping a cornea that includes the step of placing an electrode in direct contact with the cornea tissue. For this reason, the applicant submits that the claims are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 33-37 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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